Tripartite Advisory Committees at the Central and State levels to advise the Government concerning matters arising out of the administration of the Act. The State Advisory Committee for Tamil Nadu was last constituted in May, 1993 for a period of three years.

The meetings of the Central and State Advisory Committees are held from time to time and their recommendations/suggestions are given due cosideration by the Government.

In the above circumstances, no proposal for constitution of a Working Group to study long term impact of legislation on beedi and cigar workers of Tamil Nadu or any other State is under consideration of the Labour Ministry. As Labour is a concurrrent subject, it is upto the State Government concerned, in case they are satisfied about its need to set up a Working Group to study the long term impact of legislations on the Beedi and Cigar Workers of Tamil Nadu.

Import of Newsprint

*105. SHRI MOHAMMED AFZAL *alias* MEEM AFZAL: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state the value and weight of Newsprint imported from foreign countries during March, 1995?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): The value and weight of newsprint imported during March, 1995 was Rs. 6102.11 lacs and 32207 tons respectively.

Unemployment of Labour Force

*107. SHRI BHUPINDER SINGH MANN: Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

(a) the number of unemployed, semi-employed, self-employed labour force in the country;

(b) the minimum wages for unskilled labour for the last three year, State-wise; and

(c) the measures being taken to reduce the list of unemployed person?

THE MINISTER OF LABOUR (SHRI P.A. SANGMA): (a) to (c) As per the estimate of the Planning Commission the total number of Unemployed persons as on April 1995 was of the order of 17.9 million. About 6 million were severely underemployed at the beginning of 1992-93.

As per the results of 43rd round survey (1987-88) of the National Sample Survey Organisation 53.6% of the total workers were estimated to be self-employed in terms of Usual Principal Status.

The Eights Five Year Plan envisages a strategy for achieving the goal of near full employment situation in the country as a whole by the year 2002. This goal is sought to be achieved by accelerating growth of productive employment opportunities on the basis of faster growth of employment-intensive sectors, sub-sectors and activities. The Plan also emphasises the need for revamping education and training system to introduce flexibility and responsiveness to labour market. In addition to this overall strategy resulting in employment opportunities for both the educated and uneducated unemployed through the normal growth process, the Prime Minister's Rozgar Yojana launched on 2nd October, 1993 aims at creating self-employment opportunities specially for the educated unemployed youth in various states.

Under the Minimum wage Act, 1948, both the Central as well as State Governments are the appropriate Governments for fixation/revision of minimum rate of wages for scheduled employments falling under their respective jurisdictions. The minimum wages in the Central sphere as well as State sphere are revised from time to time. The statement indicating available information on the existing range of minimum wages for the unskilled categories of workers in different States/UTs is presented in the Statement.

Statement

Minimum rates of Wages for the Unskilled Workers in different States/Union Territories Admn.

S. No.	Name of State Govt./ U.T. Administration	Minimum rate of wages and date of revision	Remarks
I. STATE			
1.	Andhra Pradesh	Rs. 11.00 to* Rs. 40.00 p.d. (11.10.94)	Rates vary from employment to employment.
2.	Arunachal Pradesh	Rs. 21.00 to Rs. 24.00 p.d. (1.11.90)	Rates vary from employment to employment and areas to areas.
3.	Assam	Rs. 25.30 to* Rs. 24.00 p.d. (10.2.92)	Rates vary from employment to employment.
4.	Bihar	Rs. 21.00 to Rs. 34.00 p.d. (19.7.93)	Rates vary from employment to employment.
5.	Goa	Rs. 14.00 to Rs. 27.00 p.d. (7.2.92)	Rates vary from employment to employment.
6.	Gujarat	Rs. 15.00 to* Rs. 37.50 p.d. (1.4.94)	Rates vary from employment to employment (according to zones)
7.	Haryana	Rs. 1189.30 p.m.* (1.7.94)	Single rates for all employment.
8.	Himachal Pradesh	Rs. 24.00 to Rs. 26.00 p.d. (14.11.93)	Double rates for all employment.
9.	Jammu & Kashmir	Rs. 15.00 p.d. (24.3.89)	Single rates for all employment.
10.	Karnataka	Rs. 23.44 to* Rs. 32.53 p.d. (22.7.92)	Rates vary from employment to employment (according to zones)
11.	Kerala	Rs. 19.50 to* Rs. 76.40 p.d. (31.3.92)	Rates vary from employment to employment (according to zones)
12.	Madhya Pradesh	Rs. 30.36 p.d.* Rs. 33.92 p.d. (29.1.94)	Rates vary from employment to employment.
13.	Maharashtra	Rs. 8.00 to* Rs. 69.10 p.d. (29.6.94)	Rates vary from employment to employment (according to zones)

S. No.	Name of State Govt./ U.T. Administration	Minimum rate of wages and date of revision	Remarks
14.	Manipur	Rs. 37.90 p.d.* (for plain) Rs. 40.90 p.d. (for Hill areas) (1.6.90)	Double rates for all employme
15.	Meghalaya	Rs. 35.00 p.d. (16.3.94)	Single rates for all employment
16.	Mizoram	Rs. 28.00 p.d. (6.7.92)	Single rates for all employment.
17.	Nagaland	Rs. 25.00 p.d. (6.7.92)	Single rates for all employment.
18.	Orissa	Rs. 25.00 p.d. (1.7.92)	Single rates for all employment.
19.	Punjab	Rs. 40.52 p.d.* (1.3.93)	Single rates for all employment.
20.	Rajasthan	Rs. 32.00 p.d. (1.1.95)	Single rates for all employment.
21.	Sikkim	NIL	Minimum wages Act, 1948 is yet to be extended and enforced.
22.	Tamil Nadu	Rs. 10.00 to* Rs. 56.25 p.d. (27.1.93)	Rates vary from employment to employment (according to zones)
23.	Tripura	Rs. 11.80 to Rs. 23.65 p.d. (1.1.90)	Rates vary from employment to employment (according to zones)
24.	Uttar Pradesh	Rs. 468.00 to* Rs. 1038.00 p.m. (3.1.94)	Rates vary from employment to employment (according to zones)
25.	West Bengal	Rs. 17.40 to* Rs. 45.16 p.d. (1.12.93)	Rates vary from employment to employment (according to zones)
26.	Andaman & Nicobar	Rs. 27.00 to Rs. 28.00 p.d. (13.8.92)	Rates vary from employment to employment (according to zones)
27.	Chandigarh	Rs. 1043.50 p.m.* (22.2.90)	Single rates for all employment.
28.	Dadra & Nagar Haveli	Rs. 19.50 to Rs. 29.65 p.d. (15.12.92)	Rates vary from employment to employment (according to zones)
29.	Daman & Diu	Rs. 22.00 to Rs. 27.00 p.d. (19.3.93)	Single rates for all employment.

S. No.	Name of State Govt./ U.T. Administration	Minimum rate of wages and date of revision	Remarks
30.	Delhi	Rs. 57.50 p.d.* (1.2.95)	Single rates for all employment.
31.	Lakshadweep	Rs. 30.00 p.d. (1.1.93)	Single rates for all employment.
32.	Pondicherry	Rs. 8.00 to Rs. 14.00 p.d. (15.12.89)	Rates for agricultural workers.
II.*	CENTRAL GOVERNMENT	Rs. 31.02 to Rs. 46.62 p.d. (1.4.95)	Rates vary from employment to employment (according to areas)

Note: * Indicates the provision of Variable Dearness Allowance alongwith minimum rates of wages.

Dates indicated in brackets are those on which the Minimum Wage Notifications were issued.

Import of Kerosene by STC

*109. DR. SANJAY SINH: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the State Trading Corportation has been allowed to import kerosene with a view to reduce the price of kerosene for the consumers;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof;

(c) whether it is also a fact that Indian Oil Corporation have turned down the STC proposals for sharing the former's different facilities like storage tanks and piplelines; and

(d) if so, what is Government's reaction in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI P. CHIDAMBARAM): (a) and (b) STC does not require Government's approval for import of Superior Kerosene Oil (SKO) since import of kerosene is permissible without any import licence under the Parallel Marketing Scheme.

(c) and (d) In December, 1994, STC approached Indian Oil Corporation (IOC) for utilising IOC's storage facilities for storage of SKO. However, IOC regretted its inability, since it did not have spare storage capacity available at Bombay and Kandla for being offered to STC.

Loan by World Bank for new coal mines

*110. SHRI B.K. HARIPRASAD: Will the Minister of COAL be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are seeking any loan from World Bank for the new mining projects and expansion of the existing coal mines and if so, the quantum of the loan so proposed;

(c) what are the operative conditions and norms of the proposal and whether the World Bank has set any mandatory norm for rehabilitation and re-training of tribals affected by such projects; and

(c) whether Government will be able to attain the rehabilitation/re-training norms set by the World Bank, considering the prevailing mining conditions and if not, whether any request for relaxation of such stringent clauses has been made to the World Bank?